2023 ANNUAL REPORT

USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health
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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are coming to the close of another year and, hard as it is to believe, approaching five years as the Institute on Inequalities in Global Health. Since putting together our strategic plan in 2018, the Institute has taken as its primary focus the need to address inequality and injustice in all that we do. In reflecting on our work and growth over the past year, even as the issues we face as a society have never seemed more intractable and complex, I am proud of the many ways our commitment to advancing global health justice continues to shape our research, education and policy initiatives in ways that can truly drive meaningful change. And I am endlessly thankful for our faculty, staff, students and partners across the globe who have been actively engaged in efforts to address the root causes of health disparities in Los Angeles and around the world in myriad domains from HIV to climate change, producing cutting-edge research, programming and policy initiatives at the intersection of health, rights, justice and equity.

Over the past year, we have continued to work with many of our long-term collaborators, but we have also fostered new strategic partnerships with local and international organizations, academic institutions, and governmental agencies. Two new initiatives in particular warrant mention. This year, we began a multi-year partnership with Durex, the Durex x USC IIGH Global Initiative on Young People’s Sexual Rights and Health, which works across our research, education and policy pillars to address the barriers that impede understanding, expression and fulfillment of sexual health and rights for young people. Also, working with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, and partner organizations across the globe, we have collectively launched the Population, Ethics, and Human Rights Fellowship dedicated to conducting interdisciplinary research and advocacy to address emerging challenges in low- and middle-income countries associated with civil registration systems for key and vulnerable populations.

“In reflecting on our work and growth over the past year, even as the issues we face as a society have never seemed more intractable and complex, I am proud of the many ways our commitment to advancing global health justice continues to shape our research, education and policy initiatives in ways that can truly drive meaningful change.”
Our academic programs have been designed to equip the next generation of global health leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the complex challenges of health disparities on a global scale, but it is the students who are leading us in many of these efforts that I truly wish to thank. As you will see in these pages, our students at USC are inspiring: their passion about connecting law and rights to sexual and reproductive health; their use of social media to educate and inform their communities; and their generosity in mentoring one another across disciplines and degree programs to highlight just a few examples.

Even in these challenging times, there are things to celebrate – in particular we at IIGH are finally a strong team with a wide set of engaged partners! This is allowing us to expand the reach of our education programs, dig deeper in our research and our policy change efforts, and build more systematically towards a sustainable infrastructure that can help us to do the critical work needed and respond to emerging crises. I am so thankful to each person on the IIGH team, their passion, good will and good humor, and dedication to working together towards lasting change, and so grateful to work with them all.

Looking ahead, we remain resolute in our commitment to drive innovation, foster collaboration, and conduct research that promotes health equity on a global scale. As we approach our five year anniversary, it feels clear our work now is at least as important as when we first created the Institute. Through our research, education and policy initiatives, we at IIGH will continue to center equity and human rights, and fight for the health of marginalized populations, in all contexts. I am endlessly grateful to our dedicated faculty, passionate students, supportive partners, friends and colleagues at USC and across the world who help to make the IIGH mission possible. Thank you for your support as we continue on this journey. To another year of listening, engaging, and action.

Warmly,

Sofia Gruskin, JD, MIA
Director, USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health
Professor, Keck School of Medicine and Gould School of Law

“Through our research, education and policy initiatives, we at IIGH will continue to center equity and human rights, and fight for the health of marginalized populations...”
WELCOME NEW IIGH COLLEAGUES!
The IIGH team has expanded quite a bit this year! We welcome Dr. Parveen Parmar, Director of Academic Programs; Dr. Megan Goulding, Director of Strategic Operations; Kaitlin Cheng, Administrative Project Specialist; Summer Peet, Senior Program Officer; and Linda Rivera, Public Communications Coordinator.
Our People

USC Affiliates

Daniel Tarantola
Adjunct Professor of Research, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California

Kavita Munjal
Assistant Vice President & Senior Advisor, Global Philanthropy and Principal Gifts, Keck Medicine of USC

Melissa Withers
Director, APRU Global Health Program, University of Southern California

External Affiliates

Rajat Khosla
Director, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health

Jeffrey O’Malley
Senior Advisor, UNDP Hub on LGBTI+ and Key Populations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Eszter Kismödi
Chief Executive, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters

Alice Lakati
Senior Lecturer, Director, Research, Innovation and Community Extension, Amref International University

Student Workers

Maylis Basturk
M.D. Program, Keck School of Medicine

Kaya Czyz
B.S. Health Promotion, Keck School of Medicine; B.A. French, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Lillie Guo
B.S. Global Health, Keck School of Medicine

Rumaisa Islam
B.S. Cognitive Science, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences; Minor Global Health, Keck School of Medicine

Krishni Satchi
B.S. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Keck School of Medicine

Norma Marshall
MPH, Concentration in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Keck School of Medicine

Asna Tabassum
B.S. Biomedical Engineering, Viterbi School of Engineering

Maya Ueoku
B.S. Global Health, Keck School of Medicine

Maggie Kolchina
B.S. Global Health, Keck School of Medicine
Our Mission:

To work with partners at USC and around the world to address health-related disparities and inequalities; take a multidisciplinary approach to advance the evidence base about what works; train the next generation of leaders; and inform public policy.

Our Vision:

A just and healthy world.

About IIGH:

The USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health fosters a multidisciplinary, inclusive approach to global health that engages a range of partners and academic disciplines, including medicine, public health, law, social science, human rights, economics, policy, communications, and social work. University-wide and driven by excellence, the Institute aims to address those issues that are too complex to have a home with any single researcher, department, or school.
Our Approach

RESEARCH

IIGH collaborates with dozens of civil society, academic, government and UN partners across the globe, as well as faculty and schools across USC, to conduct research that transcends borders and disciplines to tackle existing and emerging global health concerns.

EDUCATION

IIGH trains global health leaders through a wide range of educational initiatives, including courses, an annual case competition, and mentored student research projects, all of which seek to help learners to understand and address inequalities impacting a wide range of global health issues.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT

IIGH engages a wide range of partners at global, national and local levels to contribute to and shape policy agendas to reduce health-related disparities and inequalities. Our policy work leverages our research and educational programs to engage stakeholders on concrete ways to embed equitable, evidence-based practices into policies, programs, governance, and diplomacy impacting health.

“Working with IIGH has been a joyful and enriching experience. As a global health student, I have enjoyed soaking in all of the knowledge and opportunities the Institute has to offer. My time as a summer fellow was particularly memorable, offering me a unique platform to collaborate and learn all about the realm of sexual health and rights. I am extremely grateful to work with IIGH.” – Maya Ueoku, IIGH Student Worker and 2023 Fellowship Participant
IIGH collaborates with a broad range of partners to address health issues in our home city. We cannot engage with health issues abroad without first being active and engaged here at home. We are committed to advancing health equity and human rights within Los Angeles and across the globe. Read on for more information about IIGH’s work, from the local to global.
Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity, including strategies to improve health and education, reduce inequality, spur economic growth, and address environmental sustainability.

As part of our work to advance the SDGs, IIGH has been working with Carnegie Mellon University and other partners on new approaches to engaging human rights and the SDGs at the local level with a focus on better understanding and tracking well-being within communities. IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin and her PhD Student Gaea Morales were invited to attend a convening organized at The Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center to establish a community of practice committed to using the SDGs to train the next generation of human rights leaders, including co-development of a plan to accelerate action at the SDG/human rights and health nexus. Current efforts also include health and human rights work with the City of Los Angeles in preparation for hosting both the 2026 World Cup and the 2028 Olympics.

Work on the SDGs is critical to IIGH’s strategic priorities, including our commitment to sustainability, human rights, and reducing inequalities to advance a more equitable world for all people.
IIGH in partnership with Occidental College hosted a meeting “Global Change on a Local Stage: Lessons Learned and Paths Forward for City–Academic Partnerships.” This full-day conference brought together local and international practitioners to discuss the lessons that cities can learn from one another on the structures needed to make partnerships between cities, universities and international organizations more effective.

Research Director Laura Ferguson was an invited speaker and participant in the first policy dialogue for the UNFPA Strategy for Family Planning, in Lisbon, Portugal, which aimed to advance meaningful evidence and positive change in sexual and reproductive health and rights.

IIGH partners with the LA County Office of Women’s Health in support of the Los Angeles County Abortion Safe Haven Project, including development of evidence-based resources on sexual and reproductive health rights, with a particular focus on the provision of abortion services.

This is an ongoing collaboration that directly advances our joint commitment to reproductive health equity, and to curbing the current assaults on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Washington, D.C. is a critical location to bridge local and global efforts to advance health and human rights. IIGH is playing a key role in working with KSOM leadership to develop new programs and educational opportunities in global health equity within USC’s new Washington, D.C. office.
In April, IIIGH launched a three-year partnership with the company Durex, establishing the Durex x USC IIIGH Global Initiative on Young People’s Sexual Rights and Health. This initiative works across policy, education, and research to address the barriers that impede understanding, expression, and fulfillment of sexual health and sexual rights for young people in all their diversity. By combining the rigor of IIIGH’s work with one of the world’s leading brands in personal wellness, the initiative aims to foster an environment where young people’s sexual health and rights are achievable within a more inclusive society.

In June, IIIGH launched a summer fellowship program with a cohort of exceptional USC students. Over 10 weeks the students investigated a diversity of issues at the intersection of sexual health and sexual rights, and translated learnings into short-form video content as a tool for advocacy. Participants learned from a cast of guest speakers with professional engagement in these spaces – from NGOs, local government, UN staff, and independent advocates and produced over 500 TikTok videos that addressed issues as diverse as HIV-related stigma, abortion access, comprehensive sexuality education, and sexual pleasure. We are also launching a new Youth Ambassadors Program with select participants from the summer fellowship.

Additionally, the partnership is developing exciting, high-impact research and policy work examining and addressing the ways in which young people’s experiences of sexual health and sexual rights are shaped by factors at many levels – including their own individual situations, families, communities, the health system to which they have access, and the laws, policies and practices that shape the environment around them. This work is initially happening in two cities, Los Angeles and São Paulo, with several global level efforts, as well as the potential to add a third study partner in 2024.
Working Across Boundaries

Timely and critical issues within global health don’t exist within siloes. Regardless of where IIGH works or the topics we engage in, the Institute works closely with our local and global partners. Read on for more about our work in East Africa and in Brazil.

Africa Hub

Founded in 2020, the USC Africa Hub aims to promote and sustain equitable partnerships in research, education and policy engagement with collaborators in the region. It also helps USC faculty and students from across the university to connect with regional global health activities. With its secretariat based in Amref Health Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, the Hub currently has partnerships with 16 organizations across four countries in the region. Our core partnership with Amref Health Africa has been greatly strengthened over the past three years of working together and collaborations between our institutions is strong. A few current projects are highlighted below.

This year, IIGH strengthened its collaboration with Microsoft’s Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Humanitarian Action Project, the Viterbi School of Engineering, Amref Health Africa and the Kenyan Ministry of Health, to help address malnutrition in children under five in Kenya. Leveraging data from the national health information system, along with remote sensing, weather and agricultural data, the team is developing a ‘Food and Nutrition Dashboard’ intended for use by the Ministry of Health, health facilities and civil society organizations, including IIGH partners, to provide targeted nutrition interventions with a focus on young children throughout the country.
As part of our ongoing collaboration with the **Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI)**, **Conservation Through Public Health (CTPH)** and other partners, this project uses a One Health approach to understand and address health at the human–wildlife–livestock interface in **Uganda**. Involving different government sectors, including the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries, and the Uganda Wildlife Authority, alongside community-based organizations, such as CTPH, who are well-trusted by local communities and have a deep understanding of local realities, this project seeks to drive more sustainable change.

IIGH is leading the legal and policy aspects of this project, and in February, **IIGH Research Director Laura Ferguson presented initial findings to project partners and other stakeholders in Uganda which are now informing national strategic planning processes and efforts to improve the One Health legal and policy environment.** IIGH is also supporting sociocultural and gender analyses to understand the multitude of factors that may be leading to inequalities in disease awareness and prevention, exposures, and treatment.

IIGH also hosted two One Health events this year to highlight work from this collaboration. In October, IIGH co-sponsored an event at USC featuring Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka, founder and CEO of CTPH, who spoke about her recent book, “Walking with Gorillas.” In November, IIGH hosted an online webinar, **“From Silos to Synergy: The Potential for ‘One Health’ to Address Inequalities – Lessons from Uganda and the Global Level,”** which was moderated by Research Director Laura Ferguson. The panel explored the nature of inequalities at the human–wildlife–livestock interface, unpacking not only which populations are most affected but also the drivers of these disproportionate risks.
Supported by USAID, and in collaboration with Search for Common Ground, Amref Health Africa and other key partners, IIGH has been piloting an approach to identify and understand the impact of youth-led and youth-supporting peacebuilding initiatives in Kenya using a social return on investment (SROI) analysis. Led by IIGH Education Director Shubha Kumar, this work brings expertise on the application of SROI methodology to understand the key outcomes that stakeholders experience and the relative importance of these outcomes to them. The project’s findings are helping to elucidate the value of investments in youth, peace and security for policy makers, civil society organizations, and additional key stakeholders working in the field and contribute to the evidence base in Kenya and beyond.

Dr. Kumar has given a number of talks this year, both domestically and internationally, on Evaluating the Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Youth-Led and Youth-Supporting Peacebuilding Programs, noting how the youth, peace, and security agenda is gaining momentum across policy, funding, and practice communities.

In partnership with Amref Health Africa, and led by Dr. Kumar, IIGH is conducting an impact evaluation of a long-standing health workforce training program in South Sudan, using the social return on investment (SROI) methodology. SROI is an approach to impact measurement and management that helps to understand and measure the key outcomes that stakeholders experience and the relative importance of these outcomes to them.

The project’s findings will help to illustrate the value of investments in training of the health workforce and its contributions to health system strengthening for policy makers, employers, and communities.
Partnerships in Brazil

Building on a 25-year relationship, this past year IIGH further deepened its long-standing work with the University of São Paulo across research and educational activities. In September, we hosted Dr. Antonio Cerdeira Pilão, a postdoctoral researcher in the Graduate Studies in Public Health program at the University of São Paulo to further develop a collaborative research agenda on youth vulnerabilities in the context of pandemics. **This work was deepened during a week-long trip to São Paulo in November, where IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin and Research Director Laura Ferguson met with multiple scholars at University of São Paulo to discuss an emerging shared research agenda focused on youth sexuality and health.** These themes were further explored during research presentations given by Profs. Gruskin and Ferguson at University of São Paulo’s international research seminar on “Youth, Sexuality and Health: Scientific-political Challenges in the Digital Era.”

IIIGH’s collaboration with the University of São Paulo will continue to deepen over the coming year, as they are a key partner in the implementation of the research and educational components of the Durex x USC IIIGH Global Initiative on Young People’s Sexual Rights and Health.

IIIGH continues its collaborations with other partners in Brazil, including the Universidade Católica de Santos (Catholic University of Santos) and the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz) in Brasília on a demonstration study on the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV in three Brazilian cities – Salvador, Belo Horizonte, and São Paulo – among adolescent men who have sex with men and transgender women, aged 15–19 years.
Leading by Collaboration

To solve global health problems requires true multidisciplinary collaboration. That is why as IIGH we are truly pan-university. Current challenges in global health cannot be solved by one field alone. Accordingly, our projects engage faculty, students, and partners from a variety of disciplines and academic fields, including: communications, epidemiology, engineering, law, medicine, policy, political science, social work, and social science. At USC our leadership of the Law and Global Health Collaboration Group, and globally our deep involvement in the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) Initiative on Population Registers, Ethics and Human Rights, are just two examples of collaboration with a wide range of partners on transdisciplinary research and educational priorities.

USC Law & Global Health Collaboration Group

The USC Law & Global Health Collaboration Group has been in existence since 2016, working with partners and faculty across USC schools and from around the world to advance scholarship and convene speakers on global health topics pertaining to complex issues at the intersection of law and global health. This past year, the Group continued its work with students and faculty on the intersections of law and global health with a particular focus on self-care technologies and abortion access.

Most recently, the group co-authored a manuscript to contribute to the global discussions on self-care which seeks to offer a layered and adaptable conceptualization of self-care in service of improving health and well-being for all. The USC Law & Global Health Collaboration Group remains committed to continuing its longstanding work around abortion access as it relates to the USC and Los Angeles communities, and globally in the coming year.

"As members of a global community, connection and collaboration are essential to addressing the issues that manifest across our world. By intertwining legal frameworks with global health initiatives, we can ensure that reproductive rights are not only recognized but actively protected, fostering a more just and inclusive approach to healthcare on a global scale. I have enjoyed connecting with IIGH and leveraging our interdisciplinary expertise to address complex challenges at the intersection of law and global health, especially regarding reproductive justice." – Gillian Norton, J.D. Candidate, Class of 2025, USC Gould School of Law President of If/When/How
The Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) is an important IIGH partner, given a shared commitment to health equity. With a number of collective activities throughout the year, CUGH offers a critical space where IIGH can help to advance important global health conversations central to our mission. As a part of the 2023 CUGH conference in Washington, D.C., IIGH hosted a panel discussion titled, “Abortion Services and Access in a post–Roe World: Local and Global Responses to Complex Legal Environments” on the global implications of the Dobbs decision and considered strategies employed in the United States and in other parts of the world to support reproductive health within restrictive legal environments. This conversation was a crucial exploration of how laws and court decisions have a differential impact on different populations, the role of courts in health and wellbeing, and the ways in which human rights mechanisms, norms, and standards can be useful in trying to maintain access to safe and legal abortions across the world. IIGH is serving on the Executive Planning Committee for the 2024 CUGH conference, which will take place in Los Angeles in 2024.

Population Registers, Ethics and Human Rights

IIGH has been partnering with the Initiative on Social and Economic Rights in Uganda, the Witwatersrand Institute for Social and Economic Research in South Africa, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) for the past several years to promote attention to human rights and ethical concerns in the scientific study of population and in the exchanges between researchers around the globe.

Last year, IIGH, in collaboration with these IUSSP partners, created and launched the Population, Ethics, and Human Rights Fellowship, a one-year program for exceptional early career professionals and scholars. IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin and Research Director Laura Ferguson traveled to South Africa to help launch the program in February. With generous support from the Canadian International Development Research Centre, three Fellows were chosen from Brazil, Cameroon and Uganda after an intensive competitive process. These Fellows bring different disciplinary strengths drawing on perspectives from history, economics, law, public policy, demography, and public health.

The Fellows recently completed their first phase of work in South Africa and are in Uganda for the next six months to complete the second phase of their fellowship. IIGH has been collaborating closely with these partners, and co-sponsored several webinars with a focus on “Population Registers, Ethics, and Human Rights.” This work is at the core of IIGH’s mission and approach, with a number of activities and meetings planned for the coming year.
The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is a nonprofit network of 60 universities in the Asia-Pacific. Hosted by IIGH, and led by Mellissa Withers, the APRU Global Health Program aims to expand existing collaborative education and research efforts among Pacific Rim universities to address regional and global health challenges. Some key highlights of this year include:

- **In October, APRU’s annual Global Health Conference was hosted by Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico City.** With the theme of health equity, the conference featured presentations and keynote speakers on topics including indigenous health, migration, global access to surgery, and health systems.

- **The APRU Student Global Climate Change Simulation**, an exercise in which students formed multi-country, multi-disciplinary teams to play the role of delegates to the UN Climate Change Negotiations. The event featured 170 students from 22 universities in 19 economies, along with 16 expert speakers from the UN Environment Programme, the UN International Office on Migration, the World Business Council on Sustainable Development and more. Another 24 expert facilitators joined to assist teams on key topics such as oceans, migration, biodiversity, clean energy, population, and reforestation.

- **A 12-hour Mini Certificate in Health Research Ethics** was offered twice in 2023. To date, over 660 students have completed this free virtual interactive training, which includes more than 30 expert speakers and facilitators leading small group discussions on real-world case studies.

- APRU also partnered with the UNHCR on the 2023 annual **APRU Global Health Virtual Case Competition** to address barriers to care among urban migrant communities. A total of 49 teams from 19 universities in 12 economies participated and the winning team received a US$1,000 prize.
Since the overturning of Roe v. Wade by the United States Supreme Court in June 2022, IIHG has been responding to the ongoing assault on abortion and sexual and reproductive health and rights through a wide range of research, education, and policy activities. IIHG conducted research and hosted multiple high-profile convenings on the topic and is engaged in a number of projects to increase understanding of and access to abortion services in Los Angeles and more generally. Additionally, IIHG faculty participated in the first policy dialogue for the UNFPA Strategy for Family Planning in Lisbon, Portugal. The event was organized by UNFPA and the European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Human Rights. Read on for more on these and other projects.
Responding to the Assault on Reproductive Rights

This academic year, IIGH continued its partnership with the LA County Office of Women’s Health to support implementation of the Los Angeles County Abortion Safe Haven Project. As part of IIGH’s commitment to health equity, we worked with the county to develop fact sheets to counter misinformation and disinformation about abortion, written and designed to be accessible to broad audiences. Additionally, IIGH researched and developed a user-friendly resource on the relationship between abuse, reproductive coercion, and abortion to facilitate access to care and services for individuals who have experienced intimate partner violence. Since the start of this project, these materials have been widely distributed in English and Spanish to clients, service providers and the general public across LA County. The collaboration between IIGH and the County Office of Women’s Health is ongoing and central to our commitment to protecting access to sexual and reproductive health and human rights for all people.


IIGH and the USC Law & Global Health Collaboration group hosted a half-day event in April at USC titled, “Reproductive Health Care and the Right to Abortion: Teaching, Training, Learning Post-Dobbs.” The closed-door event brought faculty and students together with more than sixty people from the greater Los Angeles area who work across areas of law, policy, service provision, social justice, and beyond in ways that address or intersect with today’s challenges around abortion rights and access. The event provided participants with a better understanding of current efforts to improve abortion access in Los Angeles, and the barriers faced; a space for discussing how collaboration may help to address these barriers or other identified gaps; and an opportunity to collectively brainstorm the implications of the current landscape to provide effective, comprehensive, and contextually relevant teaching and training in the post-Dobbs landscape in Los Angeles and more widely.
IIGH is working with students to identify the range of courses and trainings at USC that exist to learn about sexual and reproductive health and rights. This work is informed by the call from students who participated in “Reproductive health care and the right to abortion: Teaching, training, learning post–Dobbs” to understand the educational opportunities available at USC around abortion and SRHR more broadly. The findings of this review are contributing to a report and strategic planning to address the educational opportunities that exist for USC students to learn about sexual and reproductive health and rights, including abortion, and to identify any gaps and recommendations for improvement.

IIGH, in partnership with the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, Human Reproduction Programme, hosted a dynamic panel discussion titled “The WHO Safe Abortion Guidelines: Current Use and Effectiveness Locally and Globally.” This virtual panel brought together clinicians, civil servants, implementers, and lawyers focusing on the provision of abortion services globally, in India and here in California. The discussion considered the realities of abortion provision in our current moment, with attention to the diverse applications and utility of these standards and explored existing and potential linkages with current policy and practice.

“My current research with the Institute on Inequalities in Global Health on sexual and reproductive health and rights education seeks to evaluate reproductive justice at an institutional level. This work intertwines with topics of global health and reproductive justice by analyzing current successes and gaps in reproductive justice but also by providing research-based advocacy that could shape tangential change in the realm of reproductive justice here at USC and at a broader scale. Alongside providing me the opportunity to further pursue sexual rights advocacy, the goal of achieving reproductive justice at a global level motivates and drives my aspirations to pursue a career in health equity.” – Kaya Czyz, IIGH Student Researcher and 2023 Fellowship Participant
In October, IIGH was honored to participate in the 2023 World Health Summit held in Berlin, Germany. The Summit brings together stakeholders from politics, science, the private sector, and civil society from around the world to set the agenda for a healthier future by inspiring innovative solutions for better health and wellbeing for all. Amongst other activities, IIGH co-hosted an in-person event titled “Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Bodily Autonomy in a Digital World” where IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin moderated a panel, bringing together decision-makers from UN agencies, academia and the private sector, focused on the potential and challenges of technology to achieve health equity. Participants emphasized the ways in which technology, social media, and digital health interventions could significantly impact gender inequalities in health, especially in resource-poor settings, and explored needed solutions.
**Addressing Health Equity In Aging and Vulnerable Populations**

In almost every region of the world, the proportion of older adults is outpacing that of children, creating a demographic shift that will profoundly alter every aspect of society, including our systems of health care and social protection. Despite billions of dollars of annual expenditure in global health, and despite the realities of population aging around the world, the U.S. is not yet sufficiently and equitably targeting older adults in its global health programs. IIGH is building out a new stream of work focused on improving health equity among aging populations across a number of dimensions.

Alleviating suffering for those facing life-limiting illness, death, or bereavement is especially critical in humanitarian settings, where saving lives is a moral and medical imperative. For this and a host of other reasons, palliative care is thought to be neglected in humanitarian responses. To address this critical issue, IIGH faculty are participating in a new international working group on palliative care in humanitarian settings, which aims to facilitate dialogue and collaboration to develop a shared understanding of advocacy, research and implementation priorities related to the care of those with life-limiting and life-threatening illness in humanitarian settings.

IIGH Project Specialist Caroline Diamond and IIGH Director of Policy Engagement Jonathan Cohen co-authored the new article titled “Rethinking HIV in an Aging Society” in Think Global Health, where they argue that to adapt to population aging in low and middle-income countries, PEPFAR and other HIV programs need to maintain a human rights approach throughout the life course, including integrated person-centered care as well as programs to address stigma related to both aging and HIV.

**Spotlight Event: “HIV/AIDS and the Longevity Dividend”**

Earlier this year, IIGH hosted the virtual panel “HIV/AIDS and the Longevity Dividend: Strengthening Health Systems and Advancing Equity in Aging Societies” which explored how global HIV/AIDS programs can support health systems in AIDS–affected countries to adapt to the needs of aging populations. In addition to a host of fantastic speakers, Congressman Ami Bera, M.D. (CA-06) provided opening remarks.

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**
**5:00 A.M. PT // 12:00 P.M. ET**

**HIV/AIDS AND THE LONGEVITY DIVIDEND:**
**Strengthening Health Systems and Advancing Equity in Aging Societies**

A virtual dialogue with:

- **Catherine Godfrey**
  Senior Technical Advisor, HIV Care and Treatment, PEPFAR / Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator

- **Jepchirchir Kiplagat**
  Lecturer, Moi University School of Public Health; Associate Director of Research, EMPATH Kenya

- **Stephen Waititi**
  Award-Winning HIV Activist; Executive Director, Community Health Alliance Uganda

**Opening remarks by:**

**Congressman Ami Bera, M.D.**
Senior Member, House Foreign Affairs Committee / U.S. House of Representatives (CA-06)
The Future of Epidemic Response

COVID-19 exposed fundamental weaknesses in pandemic preparedness and response at national and global levels which only seem to get worse over time. IIGH continues to conduct research, host convenings, and publish in this critically important area. In the spring, for example, IIGH hosted the webinar “Global Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response: Negotiating the Future,” which brought together some of the key players engaged in achieving a globally coordinated and effective instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

Additionally, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin spoke as part of the UCLA School of Law’s national conference, “The Future of Human Rights and Justice-Centered Ethics in Epidemic Response: From HIV to COVID and Beyond” making connections between health, law, and rights, stressing the importance of rights-based approaches to public health crises. IIGH faculty also published in academic journals and produced an issue brief on Mpox in collaboration with UNDP, and continued to engage in research, policy outreach, and education on pandemic preparedness and response throughout the year.

Expanding the Evidence Base

IIGH collaborates with dozens of academic, government and civil society partners across the globe, as well as with faculty and schools across USC, to expand the evidence base on what policies and practices work best to tackle existing and emerging global health concerns. Over the past year, IIGH has contributed a wide range of evidence on timely, critical global health issues, ranging from the best policies and practices to guide future pandemic responses, to evidence on improving laws and policies around sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health. While IIGH researchers are continuously innovating with new methods and approaches to research, we know that the most relevant evidence often comes directly from the voices of those directly affected by the issues at hand.

GLOBAL PANDEMIC PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE: NEGOTIATING THE FUTURE

Featuring:
PRECIOUS MATISOFO, Co-chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

in dialogue with:

LAYTH HANBALI
Analyst, Spark Street Advisors

MICHEL KAZATCHKINE
Member, The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response

NITHIN RAMAKRISHNAN
Consultant, Third World Network

FEB. 8, 2023 // 9-10 A.M. PST
USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health

MPOX: Learnings from Effective Science and Human Rights-Based Responses

JAN. 19, 2023 // NOON-1 P.M. PST
bit.ly/IIGH-mpox

ANNIE BUNIN
Director, Center for Global and Immigrant Health, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

JOEL BREHMAN
Senior Scientist Emeritus, Fogarty International Center of the NIH, National Institutes of Health

NICOLE NISIF
BRC Country Director, UCLA-BRC Senegal

ANSON, UCLA-Felding School of Public Health

PLACIDE MBALA
Co-Director, National Institute of Biomedical Research, Cameroon

GREGG GONSALVES
Co-Director, Michel Tuberculosis Foundation, Yale University

UCLA Center for Global and Immigrant Health
USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health
Global Policy Survey: WHO Legal and Policy Dialogue Methodology

Since 2020, IIGH has worked closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) on the Global Policy Survey, a project to help improve laws and policies globally around sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (SRMNCAH). IIGH had validated survey responses from 101 countries and worked with partners at WHO to enhance the methodology of the global survey. Over the past few months, IIGH has developed a methodology to assist in the conduct of country-level legal and policy dialogues relating to SRMNCAH which will be scaled up to support countries around the globe to strengthen their national legal and policy environments.
IIGH has been working with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and colleagues at the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences to help advance progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 5, which aims to “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.” Under the leadership of Research Director Laura Ferguson, IIGH is conducting research to assess how the contexts within which women and girls live shape their sexual and reproductive autonomy including their ability to access sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services. Using a combination of conceptual work and quantitative modeling and analysis, this project assesses SRH-related legal environments to identify linkages between sexual and reproductive autonomy and health outcomes. In addition, it explores patterns in restrictions in sexual and reproductive health-related laws to identify where services are most impacted, and which populations are most affected. Specific attention is given to the relationship between intimate partner violence, autonomy, and uptake of contraceptive services.

Human Rights at the Intersections
In January 2023, Bloomsbury published the much-awaited open-access anthology “Human Rights at the Intersections: Transformation through Local, Global, and Cosmopolitan Challenges,” co-edited by IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin. The publication comes after three years of critical conversations and convenings with human rights practitioners, scholars and activists from around the world. In an exploration of the “lived realities of human rights,” authors analyze the relationships between local actors, global norms and cosmopolitanism in an effort to engage with contemporary social and economic debates, including a section devoted to cutting edge issues at the intersection of sexuality, sexual health and sexual rights.
Health and Human Rights Oral History Project

Last year, IIGH launched the **Health and Human Rights Oral History Project (HHROHP)**, an archive of video testimonies from diverse figures in the health and human rights movement. The HHROHP is a growing project that serves as a research and educational tool. Current efforts also aim to influence policy development and to inspire others to create their own oral histories, deepening knowledge of global health and human rights.

The second phase of the HHROHP, led by our partners at the **University of Witwatersrand**, launched in early 2023. This phase of the project seeks to explore and extrapolate what questions are answered by the oral history collection thus far, what questions remain, and how the archive can continue to be strengthened and deepened.

As part of this ongoing work, IIGH Director of Policy Engagement Jonathan Cohen and Research Program Specialist Michelle Anderson presented a listening session at the Annual Oral History Association Meeting in Baltimore in October. The presentation was titled **“Learning by Doing: Educational Effects of Engaging Health Students as Interviewers in a Health and Human Rights Oral History Project,”** and focused on the influence of preparing for and conducting long-form oral history interviews on learners’ approaches to careers in health-related fields, making the case for the use of oral history as a tool for decolonial pedagogy in unexpected higher education contexts. This work is ongoing and a critical part of the Institute’s work to contribute to deepening knowledge of the linkages between health and human rights.
Advancing New Understandings of Health Equity

IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin and colleagues have formed the Equity in Decline research group, a multi-university collaborative that challenges the status quo of equity discourses – ones that assume persistent and incremental positive change – by seeking not only to acknowledge that we are in a world of crisis and decline, but to work from there to bring to the forefront the structures needed to address health and well-being, with particular attention to marginalized populations around the world. The group brings together researchers from USC IIGH, alongside people from the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health, Queen Margaret University, and the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, Human Reproduction Programme. In October, the group convened in Berlin to define streams of work for the next 18 months, including an increased focus on the links between health and well-being, social and economic policy, and climate change, and determined the approach they plan to use combining equity and human rights frameworks in research and programmatic activities. Most recently, the group’s second article, “Equity in Decline: Illustrating Fairness in a Worse-off World,” was published in BMJ Global Health. This work builds on a June 2023 article they published in The Lancet titled “Equity in Decline: Fair Distribution in a Worse-off World.” This work will continue to grow in the coming year, as it intersects with many critical focus areas of IIGH, including health inequality, sustainability, and human rights.
Policy Impact

Research is key but it is only one component in moving the needle to improve health access and equity. Accordingly, our research is always accompanied by engagement with policymakers, legislators, advocacy groups, and other partners who have the ability to create on the ground change. IIGH directors serve on numerous boards and committees, speak in multiple policy fora, and provide research insights and expertise to national and international policymakers on everything from pandemic recovery to the changing needs of aging populations. In the coming years, we look forward to our presence at the new USC campus in Washington, D.C., which will further expand opportunities for meaningful, strategic policy engagement within the United States and more broadly. Read on for a few highlights of our policy impact over the past year.
This critical and exciting opportunity aligns with the years of meaningful policy engagement work by IIGH around a wide range of topics, including a strong track record of partnering with intergovernmental agencies such as the World Health Organization, UNDP, UNFPA and UNAIDS, among others. Select policy engagements from the past year include:


- Prof. Cohen’s work in the U.S. Senate to develop new legislation on global health systems strengthening, as part of the Health and Aging Policy Fellowship.

- A two-week long exchange between U.S. congressional fellows and Canadian parliamentary interns, co–chaired by Prof. Cohen. Participants shared knowledge about Canadian and U.S. systems of government, political cultures, and current opportunities and threats facing constitutional democracy.

POLICY IMPACT

The University of Southern California recently opened a campus in Washington, D.C., which promises to provide a wealth of new opportunities for USC students, faculty, staff, and alumni to engage with lawmakers, policy leaders, diplomats, NGOs, and other leaders. IIGH Director of Policy Engagement Jonathan Cohen, in collaboration with USC Keck School of Medicine Dean Carolyn Meltzer, IIGH faculty and others, is developing a comprehensive program with a focus on global health equity – which encompasses both domestic and foreign health policy questions.

Over the coming year, Prof. Cohen will work with colleagues across the Keck School of Medicine (KSOM) and USC to bring global health equity to existing USC programs in Washington, D.C., as well as establish a calendar of quarterly events to be held on the Capital Campus. Additionally, Prof. Cohen will evaluate opportunities for expanded educational engagement opportunities in Washington, D.C., including a potential semester–long opportunity for KSOM students to study and work in Washington, D.C., as well as fellowships and other opportunities for students, postdocs, USC faculty and visiting global experts.
The Scientific Advisory Board to the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief acts in an advisory capacity concerning scientific, implementation, and policy issues related to the global response to HIV and AIDS. Scientific Advisory Board members include representatives from academia, partner governments, multilateral and bilateral institutions, foundations, advocates, faith leaders, and non-governmental organizations. IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Board since 2015, working closely with colleagues to ensure legal, human rights and gender issues are considered across all PEPFAR priorities. Over the past year, much of work of the Board has been impacted by the reauthorization of PEPFAR and relevant technical and bureaucratic changes to the global health landscape.

IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin, Project Specialist Caroline Diamond, and Research Director Laura Ferguson traveled to Geneva, Switzerland to plan the future of PM589: Global Health Governance & Diplomacy in Practice. The course has not been held since 2019, but prior to the pandemic was held in Geneva each year with a focus around the World Health Assembly. The group met with key IGO and NGO representatives to discuss current opportunities and constraints, and determined the course will go forward in 2024. These meetings were imperative to building the relationships that will ensure the course is a success next year, and for exploring new collaborations relevant to IIGH research, policy, and educational goals.

“I want to thank USC for your work on addressing inequities in global health. As we’ve been so successful addressing HIV and AIDS through programs such as PEPFAR, we’re also seeing many of those individuals whose lives we’ve saved aging with normal chronic diseases like diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and so forth. We’ve also got to redouble our efforts through aid and development, working in country to build up those assets and address those needs that are unique to HIV/AIDS populations that are also older.” – U.S. Congressman Ami Bera, M.D. (CA–06)
IIGH trains the next generation of global health leaders through a wide range of educational and training initiatives, including coursework, fellowships, annual competitions, and more, all of which help students to gain a comprehensive understanding of a wide range of global health issues. We continue to offer dynamic learning experiences, events, and engagement for students from a variety of academic disciplines.
The IIGH Student Advisory Council (SAC), made up of members representing schools across USC, is active and doing wonderful work. Selected after a highly competitive application process, SAC members are responsible for informing, shaping, and improving student engagement and programming at IIGH. In turn, they gain valuable experience as well as privileged access to our network of researchers, policymakers, and advocates addressing inequalities in global health worldwide. SAC engages in a variety of activities over the academic year including the building of community across USC schools. As one example, SAC members tabled at a USC Visions and Voices supported event, “Art, Activism, and Reproductive Rights: Creative Workshops, Panel, and March,” where they provided information about IIGH sexual and reproductive health and rights initiatives and introduced SAC priorities to the larger USC campus.

USC schools represented by SAC include: the Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism; the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences; the Keck School of Medicine; the Marshall School of Business; the Sol Price School of Public Policy; and the USC School of Cinematic Arts.
Breman Global Health Immersion Fellowship

The Breman Global Health Immersion Fellowship supports two students each year interested in global health and public service careers. The Fellowship is funded through a generous donation from the Breman family to deepen students’ engagement and approach to addressing health problems as they impact low- and middle-income countries.

This summer, after a competitive application process, two USC medical students were awarded the prestigious Breman Global Health Immersion Fellowship to support their work addressing global health inequalities. Andy Liu conducted site visits in East London, South Africa and Gaborone, Botswana to collect mucosal swabs from patients presenting with suspected syphilitic lesions, obtaining further insight into the molecular characteristics as well as the frequency and distribution of syphilis in both countries, with a broader goal of community-centered policy change. Claire Bogosian studied hypertension in Armenia to understand the challenges and opportunities faced by rural health care providers in addressing inequalities in adhering to the national hypertension guidelines.

The Breman Global Health Immersion Fellowship is central to IIGH’s commitment to dynamically addressing the health disparities and inequalities facing our world by training the next generation of global health leaders.

“I cannot express how much I’ve learned from this experience. I’ve changed immensely as a person and it’s all because the Breman Fellowship took a chance on me. I’ll forever be grateful for that.” – Claire Bogosian, 2023 Breman Fellow

“This experience has been truly eye-opening for me and sparked my interest in the field of global health. A career in global health was not really on my radar coming into medical school, even as I had an interest in infectious disease, but I now see that it affects everyone around the world...” – Andy Liu, 2023 Breman Fellow
In March, over 50 students from across the university formed teams to compete in the annual IIGH Case Competition. This year’s case, “Envisioning a New Olympic Era: Using the Olympic Games to Promote One Health Preparedness,” asked students to play the role of city representatives hosting the 2028 Summer Olympic Games and connect to One Health initiatives in meaningful, measurable, and sustainable ways. Students presented their Olympic bids to a panel of expert judges in the fields of city government, mega sporting events, and global health.

Known for being as fun as it is educational, this year’s case competition offered students the chance to apply their skills and interests to a real-world situation with large scale global health impacts, and fostered opportunities for networking and friendship. The teams presented to a panel of exceptional judges, including: **Anurag Jindal**, Senior Managing Director, Biopharma, SVB Securities; **Joel Lamstein**, President and Co-founder, John Snow Inc. and President, World Education, Inc.; and **Demetrios Psihopaidas**, Supervisory Health Scientist, HIV/AIDS Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**LA Global Health Conference**

IIGH, in collaboration with the Global Health Program at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine, co-sponsored the eighth annual Los Angeles Global Health Conference, “Moving Towards Global Solidarity: Examining the Shared Impacts of COVID-19” in January 2023. This USC/UCLA student-led event convened speakers from the nonprofit, governmental, academic and activist sectors of global health to discuss approaches to addressing the state of health disparities in the United States and around the world. **Amongst other IIGH engagements, students Asna Tabassum and Maylis Basturk presented, “Storing the Stories: The Health and Human Rights Oral History Project,”** sharing their work with IIGH on the world’s first dedicated library of oral histories about the modern health and human rights movement.

**Pre-Departure Training Course**

Last academic year, in collaboration with the group on Social and Global Emergency Medicine, IIGH launched the online **Pre-Departure Training course designed for all KSOM students traveling overseas and/or to border regions.** Facilitated by Dr. Taylor Burkholder, Assistant Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine, the course is aimed at optimizing students’ short-term experiences in global health, providing in-depth training on how they can best prepare, including modules and case scenarios testing key concepts they may encounter. We have been thrilled to hear from a growing number of students now returned from travel about how this course has positively impacted their experience and career goals.
**Fellowship in Continuous Learning for Anti–Racist Curricular Change**

This year the Department of Population and Public Health Sciences at the Keck School of Medicine of USC launched the Fellowship in Continuous Learning for Anti–Racist Curricular Change (CLARCC), a cohort-based curriculum initiative that aims to strengthen the ability of participants to embed principles of antiracism into educational efforts. IIGH Director of Policy Engagement, Jonathan Cohen, serves as the CLARCC Faculty Coordinator and IIGH Research Director Laura Ferguson is part of the first CLARCC fellowship cohort. The CLARCC initiative is an intentional response to requests from USC public health students to address the impact of racism and colonialism on health and public health in courses, increase the diversity in instructors and in curriculum, and embrace cultural sensitivity.

**IIGH Student Symposium**

IIGH held its annual Student Symposium in November, which featured presentations by students on a wide range of IIGH educational and research opportunities for students interested in careers in global health. This symposium was held as part of International Education Week, showcasing IIGH’s commitment to educating students to foster collaboration and address global health inequalities.

**Sustainability Hub**

The USC Sustainability Hub opened in the Student Union in September 2023. The Sustainability Hub is a shared space dedicated to cultivating a cross-campus community. IIGH is supporting the Hub and sharing our exciting sustainability initiatives with the campus community.
Additional IIGH Events

**CAN REPARATIONS HELP TO END RACIAL DISPARITIES IN HEALTH?**
A Conversation inspired by the 2023 California Reparations Task Force Report

A virtual dialogue with:

- **Manuel Pastor**
  Professor and Director
  USC Price School of Public Policy
  USC Equity Research Institute

- **Latonia Lewis**
  Teaching Professor & Director
  School of Nursing
  USC Viterbi School of Engineering

- **Cheryl Ellis**
  President & CEO
  USC Equity Research Institute

Moderator:

- **Reggie Jones-Sawyer**
  California State Senator
  Representing the 36th Assembly District

**DECEMBER 5, 2023 // 12:00 P.M. PT // 3:00 P.M. ET**

**FROM SILOS TO SYNERGY: THE POTENTIAL FOR “ONE HEALTH” TO ADDRESS INEQUALITIES Lessons from Uganda and the Global Level**

A virtual dialogue with:

- **Douglas Nsereko**
  Global Health and Environment Advisor
  United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- **Galiotis Kalima-Dussonya**
  Health Advisor
  Uganda Ministry of Health

- **Julius Lutumana**
  Health Advisor
  Uganda Ministry of Health

**NOVEMBER 7, 2023 // 5-10 A.M. PT // 12-5 P.M. ET // 7-8 P.M. ET**

**SEXUAL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS: AT THE INTERSECTIONS: GLOBAL NORMS AND LOCAL REALITIES**

A virtual dialogue with:

- **Rajat Khosla**
  Director, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health

- **Pascale Alloetey**
  Director, World Health Organization Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research — Human Reproduction Programme

- **Katie Gilmore**
  Professor in Practice, London School of Economics and Political Science; Honorary Professor, Human Rights Centre at University of Essex

- **Momin Rahman**
  Professor
  School of Nursing, Fitness, and Health
  University of North Texas

- **Elorm Amo Akrobido**
  Director
  Ghana Health Service

**MARCH 8, 2023 // 1-3 P.M. PST**

**JUSTICE, CRITICAL SCIENCE & THE TWO-EDGED SWORD OF DATA: STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS REQUIRE STRUCTURAL SOLUTIONS**

A virtual dialogue with:

- **Nancy Krieger**
  Professor, Social Epidemiology
  Director, Interdisciplinary Concentration on Women, Gender, and Health
  Norwalk P. T. Chan School of Public Health

- **Jacqueline M. Seall**
  Research Scientist
  National Institutes of Health

**APRIL 19, 2023 // 5:00-10:00 A.M. PST**

IIGH’s YouTube channel of past events received 16,000 views in 2023

IIGH also proudly co-sponsored the 2023 Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Applied Studies (IDEAS) Initiative events series:

- A Pill to Prevent HIV Around the World, January 2023
- The End of Antibiotics, February 2023
- Malaria: Old and New Approaches Toward Control and Elimination, March 2023
- Public Health Approach to Elimination of Hepatitis C, April 2023
- Groundbreaking Findings from STI HPV Cancer Screening During Pregnancy in Bangladesh, May 2023
- Cervical Cancer in Control and Prevention in India, September 2023
- What Can Public Health Learn from Games and TV Shows like “The Last of Us?,” October 2023
- Pediatric Vaccine Hesitancy in the U.S. & Around the World, November 2023
- Refugee Health and Infectious Disease, December 2023
2023 Select External Engagements

“Abortion Services and Access in a post-Roe World: Local and Global Responses to Complex Legal Environments,” as part of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference; Laura Ferguson and Sofia Gruskin; United States.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: Implications for Financing and the Private Sector,” as part of the Private Sector Working Group for Global Youth, Peace and Security; Shubha Kumar; Sweden.

“Educational Effects of Engaging Student Interviewers in a Health and Human Rights Oral History Project,” as part of the Oral History Association Annual Conference; Michelle Anderson and Jonathan Cohen; United States.

“Collaborative One Health Research Initiative on Epidemics,” as part of the Why Laws and Policies Matter for One Health Research Initiative on Epidemics; Laura Ferguson; Uganda.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: From Kenya to Mali,” presented to the Ministry of Youth and Sports; Shubha Kumar; Mali.

“Current Concerns Bridging Health, Law and Human Rights: From the Global to the Local,” as part of the 156th First Friday Salon; Sofia Gruskin; United States.


“Cannabis Use in Older Adults,” as part of the Gerontological Society of America; Jonathan Cohen; United States.

“Evaluating the Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Youth-Led and Youth-Supporting Peacebuilding Programs,” as part of the Commonwealth Conference on Youth Work; Shubha Kumar; United Kingdom.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: How Results are Being Used by Key Stakeholders Across the Globe,” expert panel as part of the Search for Common Ground Global Meeting; Shubha Kumar; Kenya-USA.

“Experiencing the Global Track of the Health and Aging Policy Fellowship,” as part of the Gerontological Society of America; Jonathan Cohen; United States.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: Initial Findings from Proof of Concept in Kenya,” presented to the USAID Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation; Shubha Kumar; United States.


“Measuring Impact of Peacebuilding: Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace,” presented to the United States Institute for Peace; Shubha Kumar; United States.
2023 Select External Engagements

“Global Change on a Local Stage: Lessons Learned and Paths Forward for City–Academic Partnerships,” hosted by Occidental College John Parke Young Initiative on the Global and Political Economy and the City of Los Angeles; **Sofia Gruskin**; United States.

“Global Health Inequalities: Pandemics, Politics and People” presented to the Retired Faculty Association, University of Southern California; **Laura Ferguson**; United States.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: Lessons Learned from Kenya,” presented to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA); **Shubha Kumar**; Mali.

“Population Registers, Ethics and Human Rights” as part of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) Interdisciplinary Webinar; **Sofia Gruskin**; Canada.

“Post Covid: The Unequal State of Health in America,” hosted by the USC Center for Political Future; **Sofia Gruskin**; United States.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: Lessons Learned for USAID,” presented to the USAID Center for Conflict and Violence Prevention; **Shubha Kumar**; United States.

“Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Bodily Autonomy in a Digital World,” as part of the World Health Summit; **Sofia Gruskin**; Germany.

“Social Return on Investment (SROI) of #YouthforPeace: Implications for the Field,” presented to the USAID Peace and Security Council; **Shubha Kumar**; United States.

“Sexual Health, Sexual Rights and Sexual Pleasure: Making it Real for Young People,” as part of Youth, Sexuality and Health: Scientific–Political Challenges in the Digital Era; **Sofia Gruskin**; Brazil.


“Young people, HIV and the Law: Lessons for Now and For the Future,” as part of Youth, Sexuality and Health: Scientific–Political Challenges in the Digital Era; **Laura Ferguson**; Brazil.

Select Publications

Articles and Chapters:


Books:
Select Publications

Technical Reports:


Accepted Abstracts:

Select Publications


Media and Television Appearances:

“Protests Continue About the Tens of Thousands Incarcerated by ICE.” Parmar P. National Public Radio, April 4, 2023.


We Are Grateful to Our 2023 Partners & Funders

- ACLU California Action
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences
- American Political Science Association
- Amnesty International
- AMPATH Kenya
- Amref Health Africa
- California Abortion Alliance
- California Alliance of Academics and Communities for Public Health Equity
- California Reparations Task Force
- California State Assembly
- Centre for Justice Law and Society
- City of Los Angeles Office of the Mayor
- Columbia University
- Community Health Alliance Uganda
- Conservation Through Public Health
- Consortium of Universities in Global Health
- Democratic Republic of Congo National Institute of Biomedical Research
- Durex
- Emory University
- Feminist Majority Foundation
- Fiocruz Brasilia
- Fogarty International Center at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Foundation for Scientific and Technological Development in Health
- Gerontological Society of America
- Gilded Cinema
- Global Action for Trans Equality
- Global Network of Sex Work Projects
- Harvard T. Chan School of Public Health
- Health and Aging Policy Fellowship
- Human Rights Watch
- Initiative for Social and Economic Rights
- International AIDS Society
- International Center for Peace, Human Rights, and Development
- International Development Research Centre
- International Organization on Migration
- International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
- Intersex Australia
- John Snow, Inc
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS
- Kenya Ministry of Health
- Kenya Red Cross
- LaTrobe University
- Lawyer’s Collective (India)
- London School of Economics and Political Science
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Los Angeles County Office on Women’s Health
- Makerere University
- Microsoft
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- Movement Voter Fund
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- Physicians for Human Rights
- Plan C
- Planned Parenthood
- Queen Margaret University
- Reckitt Benckiser Group
- Robert and Jamie Taylor
- Rural Senses
- Search for Common Ground
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters
- Sexual Rights Initiative
- Spark Street Advisors
- SVT Group
- Thaler Pekar & Partners
- The Brennan Center
- The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response
- The Pleasure Project
- Third World Network
- Trent University
- U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
- Uganda Ministry of Agriculture
- Uganda Ministry of Health
- Uganda Virus Research Institute
- Uganda Wildlife Authority
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations University International Institute of Global Health
- Universidade Católica de Santos
- University College London
- University of California Los Angeles
- University of São Paulo
- University of the Witwatersrand
- US Agency for International Development (USAID)
- US State Department Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator
- Watipa
- Weingart East Los Angeles YMCA
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organization
- World Health Summit
- Yale University

Thank you to the USC Keck School of Medicine, in particular the Dean’s Office and the Department of Population and Public Health Sciences, and to our many wonderful partners across the University of Southern California, including the Office of Strategic and Global Initiatives, the Office of Federal Relations, and the Office of the Provost.